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REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action dated September 24, 2005. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 6 and added new Claims 9 - 12 to more clearly point out the present inventive concept. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hudetz et al* and *Dunn*. This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the prior submitted claims and the new claims.

The Examiner has stated in paragraph 2 of the Office Action that *Hudetz* discloses:

"Providing a browser application on the user's computer that is [executable] in response to predetermined browser inputs being received by the user's computer, which predetermined browser inputs comprise a set of user computer inputs that are operable to be interfaced to computer inputs that are operable to be interfaced to outputs of one of a plurality of physical external computer peripherals (col.3, line 16 - col. 4, line 30 and col. 11, line 40-col. 12, line 10);

providing a non-browser input that is not a portion of the set of predetermined browser inputs for generating an input signal that is not part of the set of computer inputs (A barcode input is provided which is not part of the set of computer inputs, col. 3, line 16-col. 4, line 30); and

launching the web browser on the user's computer over a connection established with this simulated browser input and, in response thereto, accessing information on a network (col. 3, line 16-col. 4, line 30 and col. 11, line 40-col. 12, line 10)."

The primary purpose of *Hudetz* is to allow a user to utilize a scanner as one of the browser inputs for easily entering UPC codes. This set forth in col. 8, beginning at line 35-col. 8, line 46, which is set forth as follows:

"At a block 82, the Query Page is transmitted to local host computer 28 in the form of an HTML document. Browser software resident on local host 28 displays the Query Page on CRT screen 52. At block 84, the user (or process) enters the first five or

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all ten digits of the UPC product identification number encoded by symbol 46. Because the UPC product identification number is printed in both machine and human-readable format (See Fig. 3), this may be done by manual entry using keyboard, voice recognition system or other input device. More preferably, however, entry is accomplished by scanning UPC symbol 46 affixed to article 48. Input device 44 reads UPC symbol 46, and generates an ASCII character string which is ready by CPU 30 via I/O port 38. If the UPC number is scanned, then all 10 digits will generally be entered. The UPC product identification number is transmitted to the Web server resident on local service provider 22, which at a block 86 looks up the entered UPC number in database 60."

It can be seen from this text that the user enters information into a query page via a manual method utilizing the keyboard, voice utilizing a voice recognition system or any other type of input device. However, the preferable way set forth in *Hudetz* is to utilize the barcode scanner. This barcode scanner outputs an ASCII character string that constitutes an input to the computer and also is recognized as an input to the browser. Therefore, the scanner is a computer peripheral that is specifically designed to be an input to the browser.

The Examiner indicated that *Hudetz* provides "a browser application on the user's computer that is [executable] in response to predetermined browser inputs being received by the user's computer" and that these browser inputs comprise a set of user computer inputs that are operable to be interfaced to computer inputs that are operable to be interfaced to outputs of one of a plurality of physical external computer peripherals. Certainly, in *Hudetz*, the scanner is one of the computer peripherals that constitutes a browser input computer peripheral as set forth in the claim. However, Claim 1 requires that the step of providing is "providing a browser application on the user's computer that is *launchable* in response to predetermined browser inputs..." In *Hudetz*, the user is required to launch the application "prior" to inputting the data therein. This is set forth in col. 8, line 29 - col. 8, line 35, as follows:

"At a block 82, the Query Page is transmitted to local host computer 28 in the form of an HTML document. Browser software resident on local host 28 displays the Query Page on CRT screen 52. At block 84, the user (or process) enters the first five or all ten digits of the UPC product identification number encoded by symbol 46."

Further, the Examiner has stated that the non-browser input constitutes the output of the scanner.

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The Examiner indicates that this is supported in col. 3, line 16-col. 4, line 30. This is basically the summary of the invention. However, the detailed description of the invention, specifically that beginning at col. 8, line 34, as set forth hereinabove, states that the scanner output is clearly an input to the browser. This is further illustrated in the specification, beginning at col. 11, line 40 - col. 11, line 52 as follows:

"Referring to Fig. 10, the operation of browser software 130 is shown in more detail. In an initial setup 138, browser software attempts to read input from barcode reader 120. At a decision block 140, browser software 130 determines whether reader 120 has input. If no input is available, control returns to block 138, where browser software 130 again attempts to read barcode reader 120. If input is available at decision block 140, then control moves to a block 142 where browser software 130 transmits the input read at block 138 to service provider 124. There are other ways to handle input from barcode reader 120, and more sophisticated techniques may be used in actual commercial embodiments of the invention."

As such, it can be seen that the scanner output is a browser input that has a functionality and purpose to provide an input to the browser. The output of this scanner is therefore to be considered one of the set of browser inputs.

The step of launching the web browser on the user's computer is defined in the claim as "launching the web browser on the user's computer over a connection established with this simulated browser input..." which basically requires that the simulated browser input, i.e., the keystrokes in Applicant's specification, launches the web browser and then, in response thereto, accesses information on the network using the scanned information. This portion of the specification, col. 11, beginning at line 40, is set forth with respect to the description of Fig. 5. It can be seen that the browser software must be loaded prior to entering of the product number. Thus, this simulated input, i.e., the scanner output. The simulated input provided by the interface in Applicant's claim provides a simulated input that will launch the browser *and* gain access to information on the network. There is no input in *Hudetz* that is provided that will both launch the browser and gain access to a network location. Thus, Applicant believes that the Examiner is incorrect that *Hudetz* discloses the step of "launching the web browser."

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The Examiner has indicated that *Hudetz* does not exclusively teach a method for converting the non-browser input in an interface device to simulate as a simulated browser input through the user's computer one or more of the predetermined browser inputs. The Examiner is utilizing the *Dunn* reference to specifically teach a keyboard interface.

The *Dunn* reference is a reference that provides for converting an ordinary keyboard with an ordinary output such as a PS/2 output to an IR output. The input to the computer is operable to receive an IR input that is normally generated by an IR keyboard. This input expects to receive keystrokes and either the PS/2 keyboard or the IR keyboard both possess the function and purpose of providing keystrokes to a computer. All that is achieved with the *Dunn* reference is to convert the scan code of a depressed key on a PS/2 keyboard to an IR input to a handheld computer. These types of keyboards have a processor in the keyboard. This is required for PS/2. For I/R keyboards, the microprocessor is operable to convert the depressed scanned key and its associated scan code to a serial data format that is compatible with IR and interfaces to an IR transmitter for input to the IR input to the computer. Therefore, the IR input on the computer is operable to receive keystroke information and the interface outputs keystroke information. However, the peripheral, i.e., the PS/2 keyboard, already provides keystroke outputs but in a different format. Therefore, the function and purpose of the peripheral keyboard is the same as the function and purpose of the input port - both provide keystroke inputs. Applicant has amended the claims to clarify that there is a set of browser inputs, i.e., one being a keyboard, that constitute valid inputs to the browser, i.e., the browser expects to receive such inputs. A normal browser would not expect to receive an output from a scanner on a keyboard input. It would expect to receive inputs from a keyboard. Therefore, the keyboard input to the PC would provide individual keystrokes such that a barcode comprising a number of characters could be input one at a time. That is the function and purpose of the input and the browser expects to see such. This would certainly occur with respect to *Dunn* wherein individual characters would be input as keystrokes and they would be interpreted as such. Therefore, the function and purpose of the peripheral is the same regardless of whether the IR keyboard were utilized or the converter in *Dunn* were utilized. Applicant believes that the combination of *Dunn* with *Hudetz* fails to anticipate or obviate Applicant's present inventive concept as defined by the amended claims, as all that *Dunn* achieves is to provide a keyboard input to a keyboard

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input port on the PC. It is the same functionality and achieves the same purpose, i.e., inputting characters one at a time as depressed keystrokes. The Claims require that there is a set of inputs that have a function and purpose for inputting information to a browser, and a computer peripheral that does not have the function and purpose associated with the computer input that it is input to will not have such a purpose and function. Further, neither *Dunn* nor *Hudetz* teach the concept of launching the web application with this simulated input. Applicant notes that the web browser in *Hudetz* can be launched with a manually entered code, but this is not something that is possible with the scanner in and of itself, unless such code were embedded within the scanner. As such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection with respect to Claim 1. Claims 2-7 depend therefrom and, for that reason, Applicant also respectfully requests withdrawal of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection with respect to Claims 2-7.

With respect to Claims 6 and 7, the Examiner has indicated that limitations of Claims 6 and 7 are disclosed or suggested by the combination of *Hudetz* and *Dunn*. The Examiner has specifically referred to *Hudetz*, col. 7, line 1-col.8, line 46 and col. 11, line 40-col. 12, line 10. This portion of the specification merely sets forth that a UPC can be read. There is nothing associated therewith that provides for the addition of information in the interface device that can be provided as an input to the computer. All that *Hudetz* discloses is the inputting of the scanned barcode and all that *Dunn* discloses is inputting of the keystrokes. There is no additional information that is utilized. Therefore, Applicant believes that Claims 6 and 7 are not anticipated or obviated by the combination of *Hudetz* and *Dunn*.

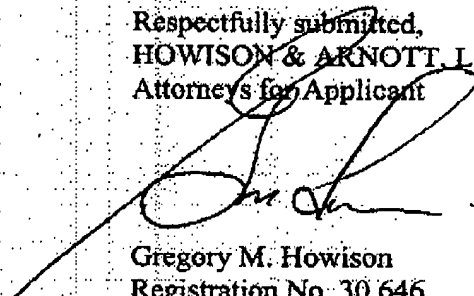
New claims have been added to further elaborate on the operation of the control code wherein the control code is operable to launch the browser application. Applicant believes that no new matter has been added by the claims.

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Applicant has now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,735 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
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